CLAIMS

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the

application or previous response to office action:

1-43. (Cancelled).

44.(New)   A method of comparing hardware comprising:

accessing a first manufacturer's database, wherein accessing includes logging onto the
storefront database from a first computer network;

requesting information about an old computer system using a configuration request;

receiving old configuration data for the old computer system from the first
manufacturer's database;

storing the old configuration data as an old system configuration;

executing configuration utility software on the old computer system;

highlighting any components of the old computer system identified by the
configuration utility software as differing from the old system configuration,

altering the old system configuration to reflect any different components identified by
the configuration utility software;

accessing a second manufacturer's new computer hardware catalog stored in a
storefront database using a second computer network;

transmitting a new hardware inquiry to the storefront database;

receiving new hardware configuration data corresponding to a new computer system
from the second manufacturer;

electronically comparing the new hardware configuration data and the old hardware
configuration data; and

determining a compatible component list indicating which components of the old
computer system may be reused in the new computer system.

45.(New)   The method of Claim 44, further comprising selecting at least one
component of the old computer system for reuse in the new computer system.

46.(New)   The method of Claim 44, further comprising the first manufacturer the same as the second manufacturer.

47.(New)   The method of Claim 44, further comprising the first computer network the same as the second computer network.

48.(New)   The method of Claim 44, further comprising determining the street values of the old computer system with or without at least one reusable component.

49.(New)   The method of Claim 48, further comprising determining whether to reuse a component of the old computer system in the new computer system based on the street values.

50.(New)   The method of Claim 48, further comprising transmitting a hardware description to an online auction site comprising the old system configuration minus at least one component to be reused in the new computer system.

51.(New)   The method of Claim 45, further comprising obtaining price estimates for the new computer system with and without the component selected for reuse.

52.(New)   The method of Claim 45, wherein the configuration request further comprises a unque tag corresponding to the old computer system.

53.(New)   A method of comparing comprising:
obtaining old configuration data over a first computer network for an old computer system from a first manufacturer using a unqiue tag that uniquely identifies the old computer system;
obtaining new configuration data over a second computer network for a new computer system from a second manufacturer;
electronically comparing the new configuration data and the old configuration data; and

determining a compatible component list indicating at least one component of the old computer system that may be reused in the new computer system.

54.(New)   The method of Claim 53, further comprising:

executing a confiuguration utility to determine the actual configuration of the old computer system; and

modifying the old hardware description to reflect the actual configuration of the old computer system.

55.(New)   The method of Claim 53, further comprising the first manufacturer the same the same as the second manufacturer and the first computer network the same as the second computer network.

56.(New)   The method of Claim 53, further comprising removing at least one component to be reused in the new computer system from the old hardware description.

57.(New)   The method of Claim 53, further comprising transmitting the old hardware description to an online auction site.

58.(New)   A method of selecting an optimal transaction amount for the purchase of a new computer comprising:

obtaining old configuration data over a first computer network for an old computer system from a first manufacturer using a tag that uniquely identifies the old computer system;

obtaining new configuration data over a second computer network for a new computer system from a second manufacturer;

electronically comparing the new configuration data and the old configuration data;

determining a compatible component list indicating at least one reusable component of the old computer system that may be reused in the new computer system;

determining the street prices of the the old computer system with or without the reusable component;

determining the prices of the new computer system with or without the reusable component; and

computing transaction amounts with or without reuse of the reusable component, the transaction amount equal to the new computer price minus the old computer price; and

selecting the lowest transaction amount.

59.(New)   The method of Claim 58, further comprising modifying the new configuration data to omit at least one reusable component selected based on the lowerst transaction amount and ordering a new computer system corresponding to the new configuration data .

60.(New)   The method of Claim 58, further comprising modifying the new configuration data to indicate at least one reusable component selected based on the lowest transaction amount and ordering a new computer system lacking hardware corresponding to the reusable component.

61.(New)   The method of Claim 58, further comprising modifying the old configuration data to omit at least one reusable component selected based on the lowest transaction amount and transmitting the old configuration data to an online auction system.

62.(New)   The method of Claim 58, further comprising:

executing a confiuguration utility to determine the actual configuration of the old computer system; and

modifying the old configuration data to reflect the actual configuration of the old computer system,

wherein executing and modifying are performed prior to electronically comparing the new configuration data and the old configuration data.

63.(New)   The method of Claim 62, further comprising:

highlighting any components of the old computer system identified by the configuration utility software as differing from the old configuration data received from the manufacturer,

altering the old configuration data to reflect any different components identified by the configuration utility software.